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COUNTRY Greece

DATE DISTR. 28 July 1952

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Salonika Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners

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- On 16 April 1952 the Executive Committee of the Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners sent a memorandum to the Metropolitan of Salonika which asked that the Metropolitan petition for the release of political exiles and prisoners during the Easter holidays. The memorandum was signed by Marika Alexiadou, Martha Valaroutsou, and Katina Dimitriadou.
- 2. On 19 April 1952, Easter cakes, eggs, fruit, cigarettes, and money were collected from relatives of leftists. On Orthodox Easter (20 April), the committee of the Salonika Union visited Eptapyrgeion Prison, including the women's cell block and distributed the donations.
- 3. On 22 April 1952 Efrimides (fnu), who was (sic) active both in EDA (United Democratic Left) and in the Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners of Salenika, composed a memorandum which was directed to EPEK (National Progressive Union of the Center) deputies of the Nome of Salonika. This memorandum asked that the EPEK deputies vote against any measures that would seek to outlaw the Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners. The memorandum was personally given to Minas Patrikios and Michael Tossounidis, both EPEK deputies from Salonika, while they were in Salonika during the Orthodox Easter holidays. The deputies were also asked that they appear as defense witnesses in the Athens trial testing the legality of the Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners. Stephen Tsaparas and Constantine Bellas, Salonika EPEK deputies who were also to receive memoranda in person, were not located.
- 4. On 28 April 1952, the Executive Committee of the Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners sent protest telegrams composed by Alexiadou against the contemplated dissolution by the Government of the Union of Relatives of Political Exiles and Prisoners. These telegrams were sent to Prime Minister Nicholas Plastiras, Minister of Justice Dimitrios Papaspyrou, and the newspaper Allaghi.

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